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Deposit

Name of Person Making the Deposit: Margret Schreck

In re Application of: Peppel

Docket No.: OOMP0001

Serial No.:

08/398,862

Art Unit: 3304

10 Filed: March 6, 1995 Examiner: M. O'Neill

Title: ELECTRONIC TRADING CARD

March 28, 1997

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents BOX AF** 

Washington, DC 20231

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL (37 CFR § 1.116(a))

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Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action, dated January 21, 1997, for the aboveidentified patent application.

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#### REMARKS

The Examiner has repeated his rejection of Claims 1-39 under 35 USC § 102(e) in view of Smith et al. Applicant is of the opinion that the Declaration Under 37 CFR § 1.131 - Tyler Peppel on September 27, 1996 is adequate in that the affidavit provides evidence of conception prior to the critical date of the cited reference along with evidence of due diligence. The Declaration indicates that as of the date of the search, Applicant had conceived of the invention. That is, the search request is evidence of conception at least before the filing date of Smith et al. The same is true for the memorandum, which is a written record of conception, as well as the set of overlays which is also a written record of the early conception by Applicant.

Therefore, Applicant is of the opinion that conception has been established in keeping with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.131. Further, Applicant notes that the subject patent application was filed on March 6, 1995. Applicant's search results were received on December 2, 1994. It is not unreasonable to expect the preparation of a patent application to take the interval from December 2, 1994 until March 6, 1995. Accordingly, Applicant has diligently worked toward reduction to practice, Applicant's filing of the patent application being constructive reduction to practice.

In summary, Applicant has demonstrated, by his prior filing, his conception and due diligence in reducing the invention to practice.

Applicant encloses a second declaration, Declaration Under 37 CFR § 1.131 - Tyler Peppel. It is Applicant's opinion that the information provided by the second declaration should be sufficient to overcome any reservations that the Examiner may have with regard to accepting the declaration and allowing the application to issue. Thus, it is believed that the rejection of 35 USC § 102(e) is avoided.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Michael A. Glenn Reg. No. 30,176

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C. Lucs Attorney Docket No. OOMPOOO1

an envelope bearing First Class Postage and addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C., 20231, on the below date of deposit.

Date of Deposit:

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Margret Schreck

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Peppel

Docket No.:

Serial No.: 08/398,862

Art Unit: 3304

10 Filed: 3/6/95

Examiner: O'Neill, M.

Title: ELECTRONIC TRADING CARD

15 March 24, 1997

> Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

20 SECOND DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.131 - TYLER PEPPEL

Sir:

This Declaration is provided in connection with Applicant's response to the Office Action, dated 1/21/97 for the above-identified patent application. 25

- My name is Tyler Peppel. I am the inventor of the invention claimed in the subject patent application.
- 30 Claims 1-39 of the above-identified patent application were objected to in the 2. above Office Action under 35 USC § 102(e) for lack of novelty. The reference cited by the Examiner as the basis for this objection was U.S. Patent No. 5,533,124, issued to Smith et al (the "Smith" patent). Smith issued on 2 July 1996 and was filed on 7 December 1994. Smith does not claim the same invention as that claimed in the 35 application.
  - The subject patent application was filed on 6 March 1995, less than one year after Smith was filed.

- 4. The invention which is the subject matter of the application was conceived at least as early as 7 September 1994.
- It is my practice to keep a notebook that contains my ideas and inventions. 5 Attached hereto as an exhibit is a document that contains pages 125, 136, 137, 151, and 154 of one of my laboratory notebooks. On page 125 of my laboratory notebook is the statement "E CARD" bearing the date 9.14.94. This statement is offered as evidence of my conception of my invention prior to December 7, 1994. On page 136, there is a reference entitled, "floppy trading cards" "E CARD". This reference to my 10 invention shows my continued work on the invention from conception. This entry is dated 9.29.94. On page 137 of my lab notebook is a diagram that shows the types of electronic cards I intend to provide as part of my invention. On page 151 of my lab notebook, the page is entitled E CARD and is dated 11.16.94. The page shows the outline I prepared for a presentation to explain my invention and work that I had done 15 on my invention, all prior to December 7, 1994. On page 154 of my notebook, which page is dated 11.28.94, there is a reference to the expense for the patent search which was the subject of my previous declaration.
- 6. I searched the hard drive of my computer and printed screen shots of each search. These pages are labeled "CHRON 1" of 5 and "BANDAI -- CHRON". I printed selected documents from these searches to show early instances of my writings about electronic cards ("E CARD"). These printed pages are attached to the CHRON pages. I have added notes to these pages which key the time stamps on the CHRON pages to the individual documents (C1, C2, etc.)

I printed five screen of the CHRON pages to show the progression of the development of the invention over time, which is fairly continuous over a period of two years from September 7, 1994 to December 19, 1996. Every item on the five pages of CHRON screens pertains to my E CARD invention. I have only printed a selected few of these pages that show the earliest electronic records of my invention. It should be noted that the documents are quite old such that the font which was used to create the presentation slides is no longer available in my more recent equipment. This disrupted the formatting, but the content is still the same.

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Note that the BANDAI -- CHRON file includes some early dated correspondence that mentions my E CARD invention. In particular, note a piece of e-mail from Bandai to me mentioning my invention.

- 7. I diligently worked toward the reduction to practice of the invention to which the application relates from the time of conception to at least until the submission of the subject application to the Patent Office. I continue to work on this invention to this date.
  - 8. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Mymn 3.26.97

DATE

## EXHIBIT TO SECOND DECLARATION OF PEPPEL

In re Application of: Peppel

08/398,862

Filed: March 6, 1995

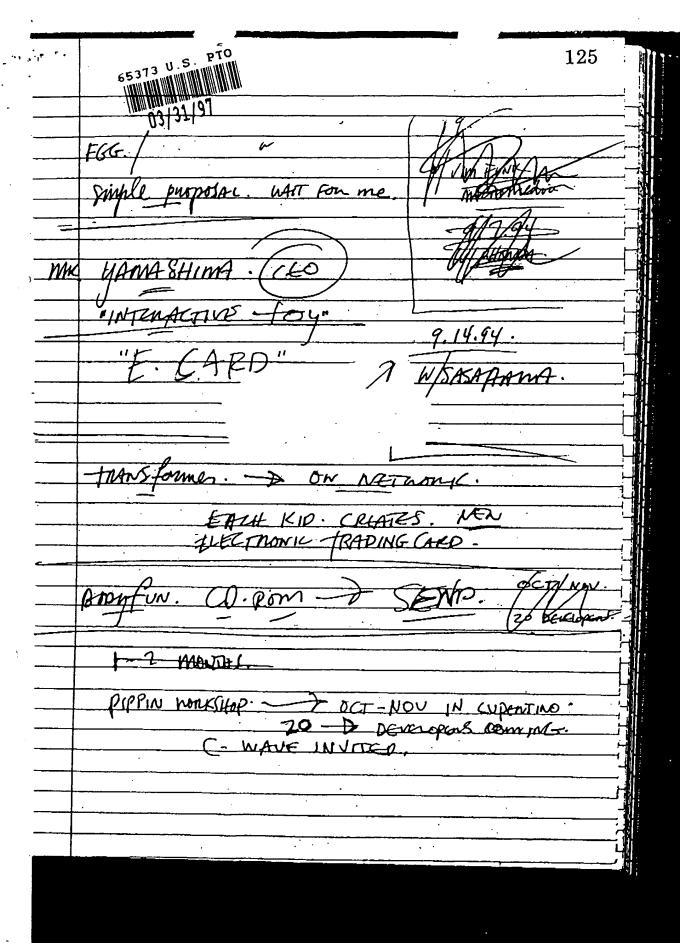
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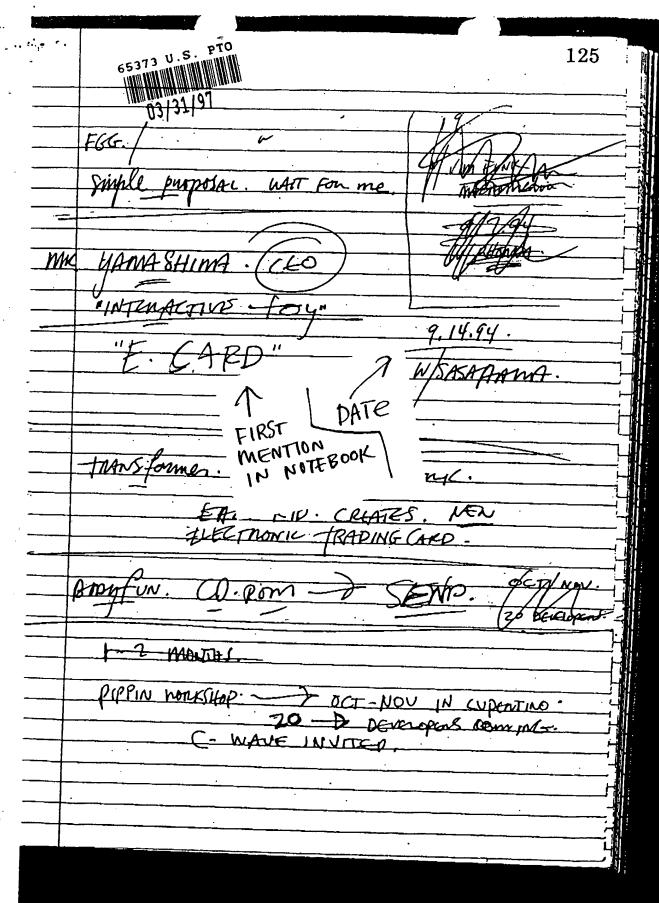
Title: ELECTRONIC TRADING CARD

Docket No.: OOMP0001

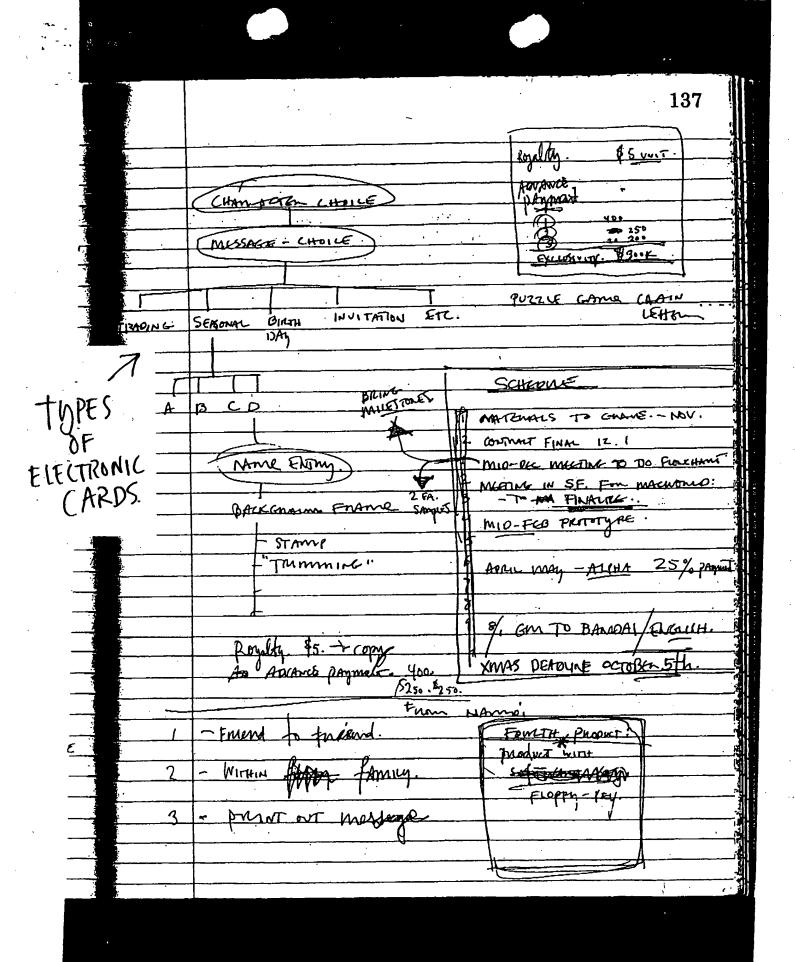
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Examiner: M. O'Neill





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